

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

34. (New) A method of receiving data in a wireless communication system, comprising:

comparing a first metric associated with a RAKE processing element to a second metric associated with an equalizer; and

based on said comparing, determining whether to transition from one of first and second modes of data reception to the other of said first and second modes of data reception;

wherein said first mode of data reception is defined by a first combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing element and the equalizer;

wherein said second mode of data reception is defined by a second combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing element and the equalizer; and

wherein said first combination of operational states differs from said second combination of operational states.

35. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the RAKE processing element and the equalizer are enabled for operation concurrently in said first mode of data reception.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said second mode of data reception.

37. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein said first and second metrics are respective wireless communication channel metrics.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37, wherein said wireless communication channel metrics are channel quality metrics.

39. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein each of said channel quality metrics includes signal-to-noise ratio information.

40. (New) The method of Claim 37, wherein said wireless communication channel metrics are channel speed metrics.

41. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein each of said channel speed metrics includes signal correlation information.

42. (New) The method of Claim 37, wherein each of said wireless communication channel metrics includes signal correlation information.

43. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein said comparing includes comparing one of said first and second metrics to a biased version of the other of said first and second metrics.

44. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein said one metric is said first metric.

45. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein said one metric is said second metric.

46. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein said one mode of data reception is a periodically activated test mode in which the RAKE processing element and the equalizer are enabled for operation concurrently.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said other mode of data reception.

48. (New) The method of Claim 46, including periodically transitioning from said other mode of data reception to said one mode of data reception.

49. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said other mode of data reception.

50. (New) A wireless communication apparatus, comprising:
an input for receiving data signals via a wireless communication link;

a RAKE processing element coupled to said input;

an equalizer coupled to said input and co-operable with said RAKE processing element to define first and second modes of data reception in said wireless communication apparatus; and

a controller coupled to said RAKE processing element and said equalizer, said controller making a determination of whether said wireless communication apparatus is to transition from one of said first and second modes of data reception to the other of said first and second modes of data reception, said controller making said determination based on a comparison of a first metric associated with said RAKE processing element to a second metric associated with said equalizer;

wherein said first mode of data reception is defined by a first combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing element and the equalizer;

wherein said second mode of data reception is defined by a second combination of respective operational states of the RAKE

processing element and the equalizer; and

wherein said first combination of operational states differs from said second combination of operational states.

51. (New) The apparatus of Claim 50, wherein the RAKE processing element and the equalizer are enabled for operation concurrently in said first mode of data reception.

52. (New) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said second mode of data reception.

53. (New) The apparatus of Claim 50, wherein said one mode of data reception is a periodically activated test mode in which the RAKE processing element and the equalizer are enabled for operation concurrently.

54. (New) The apparatus of Claim 53, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said other mode of data reception.

55. (New) The apparatus of Claim 53, including periodically transitioning from said other mode of data reception to said one mode of data reception.

56. (New) The apparatus of Claim 55, wherein the RAKE processing element is enabled for operation and the equalizer is disabled from operation in said other mode of data reception.

57. (New) The apparatus of Claim 50, wherein said first and second metrics are respective wireless communication channel metrics.

58. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said wireless communication channel metrics are channel quality metrics.

59. (New) The apparatus of Claim 58, wherein each of said channel quality metrics includes signal-to-noise ratio information.

60. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein said wireless communication channel metrics are channel speed metrics.

61. (New) The apparatus of Claim 60, wherein each of said channel speed metrics includes signal correlation information.

62. (New) The apparatus of Claim 57, wherein each of said wireless communication channel metrics includes signal correlation information.

63. (New) The apparatus of Claim 50, wherein said comparing includes comparing one of said first and second metrics to a biased version of the other of said first and second metrics.

64. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein said one metric is said first metric.

65. (New) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein said one metric is said second metric.

66. (New) An apparatus for receiving data in a wireless communication system, comprising:

means for comparing a first metric associated with a RAKE processing means to a second metric associated with an equalizing means; and

means for determining, based on said comparing, whether to transition from one of first and second modes of data reception to the other of said first and second modes of data reception;

wherein said first mode of data reception is defined by a first combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing means and the equalizing means;

wherein said second mode of data reception is defined by a second combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing means and the equalizing means; and

wherein said first combination of operational states differs from said second combination of operational states.

67. (New) A computer program product in a wireless communication system, comprising:

computer readable medium storing code therein, said code comprising:

instructions causing a computer to compare a first metric associated with a RAKE processing element to a second metric associated with an equalizer;

instructions causing a computer to determine, based on said comparing, whether to transition from one of first and second modes of data reception to the other of said first and second modes of data reception;

wherein said first mode of data reception is defined by a first combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing element and the equalizer;

wherein said second mode of data reception is defined by a second combination of respective operational states of the RAKE processing element and the equalizer; and

wherein said first combination of operational states differs from said second combination of operational states.